

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image processing method of generating print data for a plurality of different color materials to be used by a printer, based on data to be printed, the method comprising:

a step of generating the print data of a secondary or higher mixture color for predetermined two or more color hues among the plurality of print data, based on the data to be printed; and

a step of generating print data replaced at least partially with the print data of the secondary or higher mixture color for the predetermined two or more hues.

2. An image processing method of generating print data for a plurality of different color materials to be used by a printer, based on data to be printed, the method comprising:

a step of generating n-value print data of a secondary or higher mixture color for predetermined two or more color hues among the plurality of print data, based on m-value data to be printed ($m > n$: m and n being an integer);

a step of causing the generated n-value print data of the secondary or higher mixture color to correspond to the m-value data; and

a step of generating n-value print data for the

predetermined two or more color hues based on data
obtained by subtracting the corresponded m-value data
of the secondary or higher mixture color from the m-
value data for the predetermined two or more color
5 hues.

3. An image processing method according to claim
1, wherein a lightness of a print image by a color
material of the secondary or higher mixture color is
10 higher than a lightness of a print image by color
materials of the predetermined two or more color hues.

4. An image processing method according to claim
1, wherein the predetermined two or more color hues are
15 two color hues among three primary colors for color
printing.

5. An image processing method according to claim
1, wherein the color material is ink.

20 6. An image processing method according to claim
5, wherein the color material of the secondary mixture
color is a cation dye and other color materials are
anion dye.

25 7. An image processing method according to claim
2, wherein a lightness of a print image by a color

5 8. An image processing method according to claim
2, wherein the predetermined two or more color hues are
two color hues among three primary colors for color
printing.

10. An image processing method according to claim
9, wherein the color material of the secondary mixture
15 color is a cation dye and other color materials are
anion dye.

printing means for printing each color by using a plurality of different color materials based on the print data; and

25 data supplying means for supplying said printing
means with print data generated by a secondary mixture
color data generating process of generating the print

data of a secondary or higher mixture color for predetermined two or more color hues among the plurality of print data, based on the data to be printed and by a data generating process of generating print data replaced at least partially with the print data of the secondary or higher mixture color for the predetermined two or more hues.

12. A printer for printing data by using print data for a plurality of different color materials to be used by a printer, based on data to be printed, the printer comprising:

printing means for printing each of colors by using a plurality of different color materials based on the print data; and

data supplying means for supplying said printing means with print data generated by a secondary color data generating process of generating n-value print data of a secondary or higher mixture color for predetermined two or more color hues among the plurality of print data, based on m-value data to be printed ($m > n$: m and n being an integer), by a process of causing the n-value print data of the secondary or higher mixture color generated in the secondary color data generating process to correspond to the m-value data, and by a process of generating n-value print data for the predetermined two or more color hues based on

data obtained by subtracting the corresponded m-value data of the secondary or higher mixture color from the m-value data for the predetermined two or more color hues.

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13. A printer according to claim 11, wherein a lightness of a print image by a color material of the secondary or higher mixture color is higher than a lightness of a print image by color materials of the predetermined two or more color hues.

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14. A printer according to claim 11, wherein the predetermined two or more color hues are two color hues among three primary colors for color printing.

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15. A printer according to claim 11, wherein the color material is ink.

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16. A printer according to claim 11, wherein said printing means includes a head for each of the plurality of color materials for printing by discharging ink.

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17. A printer according to claim 16, wherein the head forms a bubble in the ink by using heat energy and discharges the ink by a pressure of the bubble.

18. A printer according to claim 11, wherein the color material of the secondary mixture color is a cation dye and other color materials are anion dye.

5 19. A printer according to claim 12, wherein a lightness of a print image by a color material of the secondary or higher mixture color is higher than a lightness of print images by color materials of the predetermined two or more color hues.

10 20. A printer according to claim 12, wherein the predetermined two or more color hues are two color hues among three primary colors for color printing.

15 21. A printer according to claim 12, wherein the color material is ink.

20 22. A printer according to claim 12, wherein said printing means includes a head for each of the plurality of color materials for printing by discharging ink.

25 23. A printer according to claim 22, wherein the head forms a bubble in the ink by using heat energy and discharges the ink by a pressure of the bubble.

24. A printer according to claim 12, wherein the

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color material of the secondary mixture color is a cation dye and other color materials are anion dye.

25. A storage medium which stored a program
5 readable by an information processing apparatus, the
program realizing image processing for generating print
data for a plurality of different color materials to be
used by a printer, based on data to be printed, the
program printer comprising:

10 a step of generating the print data of a secondary
or higher mixture color for predetermined two or more
color hues among the plurality of print data, based on
the data to be printed; and

a step of generating print data replaced at least
15 partially with the print data of the secondary or
higher mixture color for the predetermined two or more
hues.

26. A storage medium which stored a program
20 readable by an information processing apparatus, the
program realizing image processing for generating a
plurality print data for a plurality of different color
materials to be used by a printer, based on data to be
printed, the program printer comprising:

25 a step of generating n-value print data of a
secondary or higher mixture color for predetermined two
or more color hues among the plurality of print data,

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based on m-value data to be printed (m > n: m and n
being an integer);
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a step of making the generated n-value print data of the secondary or higher mixture color in one-to-one correspondence with the m-value data; and

a step of generating n-value print data for the predetermined two or more color hues based on data obtained by subtracting the corresponded m-value data of the secondary or higher mixture color from the m-value data for the predetermined two or more color hues.